

HERBERT SMITH FREEHILLS' JUSTIN D'AGOSTINO NAMED HONG KONG'S LGBT EXECUTIVE SPONSOR 2016

17 May 2016 | Hong Kong
News

Herbert Smith Freehills' Justin D'Agostino has been named LGBT Executive Sponsor of the year at the 2016 Hong Kong LGBT Inclusion Awards Gala Dinner on 17 May.

Currently the firm's Global Head of Disputes and Managing Partner for Asia and Australia, Justin is a long-term champion of gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender (LGBT) rights and inclusive workplaces.

The Hong Kong LGBT Inclusion Awards, organised by not-for-profit Community Business, are the only awards honouring and celebrating the inclusion of LGBT individuals in Hong Kong.

The LGBT Executive Sponsor award, sponsored by J.P. Morgan, recognises a senior executive sponsor based in Hong Kong who has used his or her influence to promote LGBT inclusion internally and/or externally.

"I'm honoured to have received this award from Community Business," said Justin. "I decided early on that I would take a very personal leadership role in D&I in both the legal profession and the business community, founding the first LGBT network of any London City law firm 10 years ago and having been an advocate for change ever since.

"I'm pleased that Herbert Smith Freehills has been a trailblazer and am delighted that so many businesses now recognise the importance of providing an inclusive workplace."

Herbert Smith Freehills also sponsored the LGBT Inclusion Award (SME) this year, which recognises a small or medium-sized enterprise (SME) that has promoted LGBT inclusion externally and/or internally in Hong Kong.

The award was presented to Cranes Media. Partner Simon Chapman was part of the judging panel for the award.

"We hope that our support will raise the profile of good work that is being done in this sector, and congratulate Cranes Media on its success," said Simon. "We recognise that small business is the traditional lifeblood of Hong Kong commerce, and engaging SMEs will be critical to driving wider positive change."

Justin D'Agostino is the Global Head of Herbert Smith Freehills' dispute resolution practice and the firm's Regional Managing Partner for Asia and Australia. He is a leading international arbitration lawyer, having acted as counsel and advocate before tribunals around the world. He is a member of the Council and Executive Committee of the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre, and a founding member of HK45, a group of arbitration practitioners based in Asia. He is also a Visiting Professor at Tsinghua University in Beijing, a member of the board of the Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce, and a Council Member and Honorary Fellow of the Australian Centre for International Commercial Arbitration.

Community Business is a Hong Kong not-for-profit organisation whose mission is to lead, inspire and support businesses to have a positive impact on people and communities, including the promotion of social inclusion.

For more details of the awards, visit www.communitybusiness.org/hklgbtindex/2016_Awards/Award_Winners_2016.htm...

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About Herbert Smith Freehills

Operating from over 26 offices across Asia Pacific, EMEA and North America, Herbert Smith Freehills is at the heart of the new global business landscape providing premium quality, full-service legal advice. We provide many of the world's most important organisations with access to market-leading dispute resolution, projects and transactional legal advice, combined with expertise in a number of global industry sectors, including energy, natural resources, infrastructure, technology and financial services.

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